

REMARKS

The recent Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to three different species. As identified in the Official Action, the three species are as follows.

Species I shown in Fig. 2.

Species II illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.

Species III depicted in Fig.5.

Based on the observation that the three species are patentably distinct from one another, an election of species requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the three species.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species II illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. Claims 1-3, 7-16 and 18-20 are readable on the elected species. Various claims in this application are generic to all species of the invention.

The election of Species II is made with traverse because it is believed that all of the claims of this application can be examined at the same time without serious burden. In one respect, the search required for the non-elected species would be substantially coextensive with the search associated with the elected species. In addition, examining all of the claims of this application at the same time would only involve consideration of a few additional claims.

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the election of species requirement and examination of all of the claims of this application, including Claims 1-3, 7-16 and 18-20 directed to the elected species, are respectfully requested.

New Claim 20 which is readable on the elected species is added. In addition, Claims 13-15 are amended to incorporate minor wording changes for purposes of consistency in the claim language, without narrowing the claim scope.

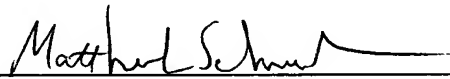
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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